

31. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said effective endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin reduces or prevents the suppression of endothelial growth associated with endothelial injury caused by mechanical damage, exposure to radiation, exposure to chemotherapeutic agents, inflammation, heart disease or cancer.

32. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said effective endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin increases the numbers of viable endothelial cells following endothelial injury caused by mechanical damage, exposure to radiation, exposure to chemotherapeutic agents, inflammation, heart disease or cancer.

33. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said erythropoietin is administered in an amount of from about 100 Units per kilogram to about 200 Units per kilogram.

34. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said erythropoietin is administered in an amount of from about 750 Units per kilogram to about 2,000 Units per kilogram.

35. (New) A method of reducing endothelial injury in a subject caused by administration of a chemotherapeutic agent to the subject, comprising administering an endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin in conjunction with the administration of the chemotherapeutic agent.

36. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said effective endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin is administered simultaneously with said chemotherapeutic agent.

37. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein said effective endothelial-protecting amount of erythropoietin is administered prior to said chemotherapeutic agent.